

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

memorandum

TO:

Director, Reference Information Center

Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau

FROM:

Daniel M. Armstrong

Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT:

American Public Communications Council, Inc. v. FCC & USA, No. 05-1080.

Filing of a Petition for Review in the United States Court of Appeals for the

District of Columbia Circuit.

DATE:

March 16, 2005

This is to advise you that, on March 7, 2005, the American Public Communications Council, Inc. filed a Petition for Review, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 402(a) of following orders: (1) Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 19975 (2003); and (2) Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Order on Reconsideration, 19 FCC Rcd 21457 (2004).

The Communications Act requires that payphone service providers be compensated for each and every call made from a payphone. But the Act does not specify who should pay the money. In the case of dial-around calls, such as to 800 numbers, the Commission's rules implementing the statutory requirement were ambiguous in some circumstances where calls were routed to switch-based resellers (SBR). The orders on review resolve the ambiguity, place the compensation responsibility on the SBR, and require SBRs to implement a tracking system to determine which calls must be compensated.

The Court has docketed this case as No. 05-1080. The attorney assigned to handle the litigation of this case is Joel Marcus.